

1    **Claims**

2        I/We claim:

3    1. An adjuster for attaching a string to the bridge of a stringed instrument, said adjuster  
4        comprising:  
5            a) a saddle with first and second opposing ends and a longitudinal axis passing  
6                through said ends, having a protruding fulcrum extending perpendicular to said  
7                longitudinal axis, and said saddle defining a string groove adapted to receive the  
8                string proximate said first end;  
9            b) an anvil, defining a pivot groove adapted to receive said fulcrum; and  
10           c) means for adjusting the relative angle of said anvil and said saddle about said  
11                fulcrum, whereby the distance from said string groove to said anvil is varied.  
12    2. The adjuster of claim 1 wherein said fulcrum extends the full width of the saddle and  
13        said pivot groove extends the full width of the anvil.  
14    3. The adjuster of claim 1 wherein each of said fulcrum and said pivot groove comprises an  
15        arcuate section with substantially equal radii.  
16    4. The adjuster of claim 1 wherein said string groove comprises a semi-circular region  
17        having a radius substantially equal to the radius of the string.  
18    5. The adjuster of claim 1 wherein said saddle further defines a clearance slot therethrough  
19        in a plane substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis adapted to allow passage of the  
20        string.  
21    6. The adjuster of claim 5 wherein said anvil further defines a clearance slot therethrough  
22        adapted to allow passage of the string, said anvil clearance slot substantially aligned  
23        with said saddle clearance slot when said fulcrum is positioned in said pivot groove.

1 7. The adjuster of claim 1 wherein said means for adjusting comprises an adjusting screw  
2 passing through said saddle proximate said second end and threadedly engaging said  
3 anvil.

4 8. An adjuster for attaching a string to the bridge of a stringed instrument, said adjuster  
5 comprising:

6 a) a saddle, and said saddle defining a lateral pivot groove, a string groove adapted to  
7 receive the string proximate a first end of said saddle, and a clearance slot;  
8 b) an anvil with a longitudinal axis, having a protruding fulcrum extending perpendicular  
9 to said longitudinal axis adapted to fit said pivot groove; and  
10 c) an adjusting screw interconnecting said anvil and said saddle proximate a second,  
11 opposite end of said saddle, for pivoting said anvil and said saddle about said  
12 fulcrum, whereby the distance from said string groove to said anvil is varied.

13 9. An adjustable bridge for an instrument having plural strings, said bridge comprising:

14 a) base plate connectable to the body of the instrument;  
15 b) plural adjusters, one for each string, each comprising:  
16 i) an anvil,  
17 ii) a saddle, pivotally supported by said anvil and defining a string groove  
18 adapted to receive the string; and  
19 iii) means for adjusting the relative angle of said anvil and said saddle about  
20 said pivot whereby the distance between said string groove and said anvil  
21 can be varied.  
22 c) plural length adjusting screws, one connecting each of said adjusters to a section  
23 of said base plate, whereby rotation of said screws relative to said adjusters  
24 moves said adjusters toward or away from said base plate section to separately  
25 adjust the length of each string.

1 10) The adjustable bridge of claim 9 wherein said base plate comprises a bottom plate  
2 adapted to contact the body of the instrument and said adjusters are supported by said  
3 bottom plate.

4 11) The adjustable bridge of claim 10 wherein said bottom plate has a somewhat concave  
5 lower surface to adapt said bridge to stringed instruments having convex bodies.

6 12) The adjustable bridge of claim 10 wherein said bottom plate has a somewhat convex  
7 upper surface to position said adjusters in an arcuate pattern.

8 13) The adjustable bridge of claim 9 wherein said base plate defines an open region in  
9 which said adjusters are positioned in direct contact with the instrument body.

10 14) The adjustable bridge of claim 9 wherein each of said adjusters has a width and said  
11 base plate comprises two spaced apart parallel side rails defining therebetween a space  
12 having a width substantially equal to the combined width of said plural adjusters  
13 whereby said adjusters are closely received within said space with lateral movement of  
14 said adjusters substantially eliminated.